Exhibit A

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Application No. 10/787,371
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Examiner,

Enclosed is a draft markup for discussion during tomorrow's teleconference. We will call you then at 11:00 AM. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Halpern
Reg. No. 51,769

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July 22, 2008 DRAFT - FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

It is understood that this Draft is for discussion purposes only and, in the absence of formal amendment, this Draft does not have the legal effect of amending any of the claims. Thus, while elected independent claims are shown below in marked-up form, "status identifiers" have not been provided therewith (Claim 44 includes no mark-up).

1. A method of forming pigment pseudoparticles from pigment particles, comprising: rotating in a direction a hollow vessel having a plurality of inwardly extending paddles with concave segments, thereby lifting pigment particles contained within the hollow vessel; rotating the hollow vessel in the direction of rotation to dispense the lifted pigment particles into a gas, thereby polarizing the pigment particles with a the gas inside the a hollow vessel; and rotating the hollow vessel in the direction to avalanche the polarized pigment particles, thereby agglomerateing the polarized pigment particles to form electrostatically-bound pigment pseudoparticles substantially free of binding agents.

29. A method of forming pigment pseudoparticles from titanium dioxide particles, comprising: providing a hollow vessel having an inner cylindrical surface and containing pigment particles; providing a plurality of paddles that extend inwardly from the inner cylindrical surface and that each have a concave segment; passing a flow of gas through the inner cylindrical surface; axially rotating the inner cylindrical surface, thereby causing the plurality of paddles to lift a portion of the pigment particles; axially

rotating the inner cylindrical surface, thereby causing the plurality of paddles to dispense the pigment particles such that the dispensed particles become polarized by the gas and land onto a pile of the pigment particles; and axially rotating the inner cylindrical surface, thereby inducing a repeated avalanching of the polarized pigment particles that agglomerates the polarized pigment particles into electrostatically-bound pigment pseudoparticles substantially free of binding agents.

36. A method of forming pigment pseudoparticles from pigment particles, comprising: providing an inclined hollow vessel having an inner cylindrical surface, a higher inlet end and a lower outlet end; providing a plurality of paddles (1) extending inwardly from the inner cylindrical inner surface, (2) ~~and~~ positioned along the axial length of the inclined hollow vessel in a helical formation, and (3) having concave segments; introducing the pigment particles into the inclined hollow vessel at the higher inlet end; passing a flow of gas through the inclined hollow vessel in a direction toward the lower outlet end; lifting the pigment particle with the paddles by axially rotating the cylindrical inner surface; dispensing the pigment particles from the paddles by axially rotating the cylindrical inner surface, thereby allowing the pigment particles to fall through the flow towards the inner cylindrical surface ~~a portion of the inner cylindrical surface nearer the outlet end~~ while being polarized by the gas; and nucleating the polarized pigment particles into electrostatically-bound pigment pseudoparticles by axially rotating the inner cylindrical surface.

38. An apparatus for forming pigment pseudoparticles from pigment particles, comprising: paddle means for ~~polarizing~~ lifting the pigment particles and dispensing the pigment particles in ~~with~~ a gas for polarization, said paddle means including a concave segment; and means for rotating the paddle means and agglomerating the polarized pigment particles into electrostatically-bound pigment pseudoparticles.

41. An apparatus for forming electrostatically-bound pigment pseudoparticles from pigment particles, comprising: a hollow vessel comprising an inner cylindrical surface, an inlet end, and an outlet end, wherein the hollow vessel is configured for rotation and adapted to be positioned at an incline having the inlet end higher and the outlet end lower; a gas within the hollow vessel; and a plurality of paddles ~~scoops~~ extending inwardly from the inner cylindrical surface and positioned along the axial length of the inner cylindrical surface, ~~said scoops~~ each of said paddles (1) being configured to, in response to rotation of said hollow vessel, lift and dispense pigment particles so as to form electrostatically-bound pigment pseudoparticles, and (2) including a concave segment.

44. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for inducing electrostatic bonding and agglomeration of pigment particles: a hollow vessel adapted to be rotated in a direction and having an inner cylindrical surface for containing the pigment particles; a plurality of paddles, each of the plurality of paddles comprising an attachment end attached to the inner cylindrical surface, a dispenser end distal the attachment end, and a segment of paddle between the attachment end and the dispenser end, wherein the segment has concave curvature facing the direction of rotation; a gas within the hollow vessel; and a means for driving rotation of the hollow vessel.